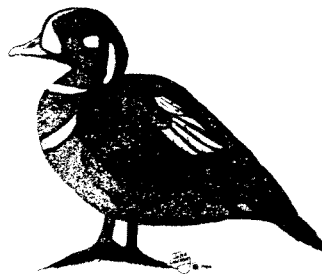


# Harlequin Duck Surveys in Western Montana: 1994



A Report to:

USDA Forest Service

Kootenai National Forest  
506 U.S. Highway 2 West  
Libby, MT 59923

Submitted by

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Table 1. Harlequin Duck reproduction in 1995 for streams with both pair and brood (at fledging) information.

Stream	#Adult♀	#Broods	#Young
<b>Flathead Drainage</b>			
McDonald Creek	22	1	1
Spotted Bear River	2	1	5
Sullivan Creek	2	0	0
Trail Creek	6	0	0
Drainage Total	32	2	6
0.06 Broods per adult female			
0.19 Young per adult female			
3.00 Young per brood			

**Lower Clark Fork Drainage**

Marten Creek	5	2	11
Rock Creek	1#	1	5
Swamp Creek	3	2	10
Vermilion River	2	2	5
Drainage Total	11	7	31
0.64 Broods per adult female			
2.82 Young per adult female			
4.43 Young per brood			

**Other**

Grave Creek	4	2	5**
Drainage Total	4	2	5
0.50 Broods per adult female			
1.25 Young per adult female			
2.50 Young per brood			

5 ? include  
green darvic band  
L. Johnson

**GRAND TOTAL**

	47	11	42
0.23 Broods per adult female			
0.89 Young per adult female			
3.82 Young per brood			

# Probably an underestimate

\*\* Two unknown age ducks present; may have been juveniles.

## ABSTRACT

Breeding pair surveys for Harlequin Ducks were done on 242 km of 18 streams during May and June, 1994; a total of 57 Harlequins (32 males, 25 females) were seen on 9 streams. Brood surveys were done on 245 km of 14 streams during July and August, 1994; a total of 82 Harlequins (15 females, 67 young in 15 broods) were seen on 8 streams. Harlequins were reported on 2 additional streams. Reproductive success, on streams surveyed both for pairs and broods, averaged 0.33 broods per female. Average brood size at or near fledging (Class III) was 4.00. Breeding was confirmed on Grave Creek (Fortine) for the first time in 1994; 4 adult ducks were seen on Swift Creek, more than previously reported. We found ducks on Sullivan Creek in 1994, where they were not found during 1993. No birds were seen during pair (May) or brood (August) surveys on Big Creek (Koocanusa), which had Harlequins in 1990, nor on a brood survey of the North Fork of the Blackfoot River, where ducks were seen in 1993.

We continued banding Harlequin Ducks in the Flathead and Clark Fork drainages. Thirty-five Harlequins (7 adult males, 7 adult females, and 19 juveniles) were marked on 7 streams. This brings the total number of Harlequin Ducks banded in Montana since 1991 to 1994: 29 adult males, 41 adult females, and 122 juveniles. We observed 11 birds previously marked as adults on streams. Additionally, we found 9 adult females marked as juveniles in 1992 on the streams where they were seen in 1994. The banding program, while small in scale for waterfowl, is providing a significant tool for local monitoring and identifying coastal areas where Montana breeding birds molt and winter.

Two noteworthy movements were detected in 1994: a male marked on McDonald Creek, Glacier National Park, on 6 May 1993, was captured on Hornby Island, along the southeast coast

of Vancouver Island, British Columbia on 5 August 1993 and again on 4 August 1994. On 11 August 1994 a male, marked as a juvenile on McDonald Creek exactly two years earlier, was captured at Shelter Point on the coast south of the Campbell River, on Vancouver Island, B.C.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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This report presents valuable information on the life history, productivity, movements and site fidelity the of Harlequin Duck. Efforts began in 1987 and have expanded to the present scope, representing the longest ongoing study of breeding Harlequin Ducks that we are aware of in North America. While the funding has been modest at best, the results have already been implemented for management of the species and its habitat. Funding for the past two years has dwindled to only two or three sources. The continued operation of efforts to survey, mark, and monitor Harlequin Ducks is dependent on additional funding and a broader base of contributors. Please contact the Natural Heritage Program office if you or your organization is able to participate in supporting this work.

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## INTRODUCTION

The Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) is a small sea duck, which travels inland to breed on freshwater streams. The male is strikingly colored with black and white spots and crescents, and chestnut sides on a deep cobalt blue background. The female is dull brown with three white spots on the face. Harlequins breed in western North America from Alaska and the Yukon south through western Montana to California (Cassirer et al. 1993); in eastern North America they breed from Baffin Island south to eastern Quebec and Labrador (Goudie 1993). In the Palaearctic they breed in Iceland, Greenland and Siberia (A.O.U. 1983). Approximately 110 pairs of Harlequins currently breed in Montana (Genter 1993), with most located in the following areas: 1) tributaries of the lower Clark Fork River; 2) tributaries of the North, Middle, and South Forks of the Flathead River; 3) streams coming off the east front of the Rocky Mountains; and 4) the Boulder River (Miller 1988, 1989; Kerr 1989; Carlson 1990; Fairman and Miller 1990; Diamond and Finnegan 1992, 1993; Reichel and Genter 1993, 1994).

During the breeding season Harlequins are found along fast mountain streams (Bengtson 1966). In many areas Harlequins use streams with dense timber or shrubs on the banks (Cassirer and Groves 1990), but they are also found in relatively open streams along the east slopes of the Rocky Mountains, Montana (Markum and Genter 1990, Diamond and Finnegan 1992) and the Arctic tundra (Bengtson 1972). In Idaho, 90% of observations occurred near old growth or mature timber stands (Cassirer and Groves 1990). Mid-stream rocks, logs, islands, or stream-side gravel bars serve as safe loafing sites and appear to be important habitat components.

Most of the ducks arrive on their inland breeding areas in mid-April to early-May; unmated males typically arrive before pairs (Kuchel 1977). The males return to the coast shortly after the females begin incubation; most are gone by early July (Kuchel 1977). The females and

young remain on the streams until August or early September. This chronology is influenced by elevation and the timing of spring runoff and may vary up to several weeks between years.

The U.S. Forest Service, Region 1, lists the Harlequin Duck as Sensitive (Reel et al. 1989). The species is listed as a Species of Special Concern by the Montana (Montana Natural Heritage Program 1994) and Idaho (Idaho Conservation Data Center 1994) Natural Heritage Programs. The eastern North American population is listed as endangered in Canada (Goudie 1993); both eastern and western populations are listed under Category 2 as a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (U.S. Department of Interior 1991).

The Montana Natural Heritage Program began surveying Harlequin Ducks in 1988. The survey data gave rise to questions involving site fidelity, productivity and mortality. Individual marking of birds began to a limited extent in 1991 and through 1993 a total of 159 Harlequins (13 adult males, 14 adult females, 41 juveniles) were marked on 7 streams. During that time we observed 20 previously marked adults returning to Montana streams. Six movements detected in 1993 were of interest. A male marked on McDonald Creek, Glacier National Park, on 6 May 1993, was captured on Hornby Island, along the southeast coast of Vancouver Island, British Columbia on 5 August 1993. This was the first record of a bird marked in Montana being relocated on the coast. On 14-15 March 1994 three Harlequins were observed on Hornby Island, all marked as juveniles in 1992 and 1993 on McDonald Creek. Local movements of birds, heretofore undocumented, include two marked females found on different streams in 1993 than where they were originally marked in 1992. Stream mouths were separated by 6 and 17 km respectively, across a reservoir and lake (Ashley 1994a, Reichel and Genter 1994).

Long term goals include: 1) developing a baseline status report of current and historic Harlequin populations in Montana; 2) gathering information on site fidelity, reproduction and mortality to allow estimations of what constitutes viable Harlequin populations; 3) developing surveying protocols for actual and potential Harlequin streams; 4) developing management guidelines for maintaining and restoring Harlequin populations and habitat; and 5) identify coastal areas where Harlequins from the Northern Rockies occur. Goals for 1994 included: 1) surveying additional streams for presence and status of Harlequins; 2) gathering productivity data on some primary Harlequin streams; and 3) marking as many individuals as possible on selected streams for long-term monitoring.

## METHODS AND MATERIALS

Harlequin Ducks were surveyed on parts of the Kootenai, Flathead, Helena, and Lolo National Forests and the Stillwater State Forest during May-August 1994 (see Fig. 1). Data sheets are shown in Appendix C. We also marked birds in Glacier National Park; surveys there were conducted primarily by Park Service personnel (Ashley 1994a, 1994b). Most surveys were conducted by walking the stream channel (when possible) or stream bank. In most cases the surveyor walked upstream, giving more time to observe the bird before it moved out of sight. Some larger streams were surveyed partially or completely by kayak. Dates, locations, distance surveyed, and general characteristics of the stream reaches surveyed were recorded; any Harlequins sighted were noted with location, numbers, ages, and sex of birds present and habitat at the site. For streams in the Flathead and Clark Fork drainages, we attempted to capture and mark all birds seen, when a licensed, qualified bird-bander was present on the survey (Reichel or Genter). Captured birds were identified to sex and age, weighed, measured (wing cord and tail), marked, and released. Except in Glacier National Park, all birds were marked with numbered USFWS aluminum leg bands and colored nasal discs, individually recognizable by shape and color combinations (see Appendix D). Birds in Glacier National Park were banded with a USFWS aluminum band and a unique combination of 3 plastic, colored leg bands; the upper leg bands were the narrow plastic-coated-wire band type.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Surveys

Kootenai National Forest. Pair surveys were conducted along 91 km of 7 streams during May-June 1994 (Appendix A). A minimum of 35 Harlequins (20 males, 15 females) were seen on 4 streams (Appendix A & D). These included Grave Creek (3 pairs, plus 2♀), Marten Creek (5 pairs plus 4♂), Rock Creek (3 pairs plus 1♂), Swamp Creek (1♂), and the Vermillion River (2 pairs plus 1♂). The single male on Swamp Creek was seen in the bay at the outlet of Swamp Creek to the Clark Fork River. No birds were seen on Wigwam Creek, nor on Big Creek (Koocanusa) where a juvenile was seen in 1990 (Fairman and Miller 1990).

Brood surveys were conducted along 56 km of 4 streams during late July 1994 (Appendix A). A minimum of 16 different Harlequin Ducks were observed on 3 streams (Appendix A & D). Grave Creek had 1♀ present with a brood of 4 chicks. Rock Creek had 1♀ present with a brood of 3 chicks (♀ was a different individual from the 3 seen in spring). The Vermillion River had 1♀ present with a brood of 6 chicks. Marten Creek had no birds present.

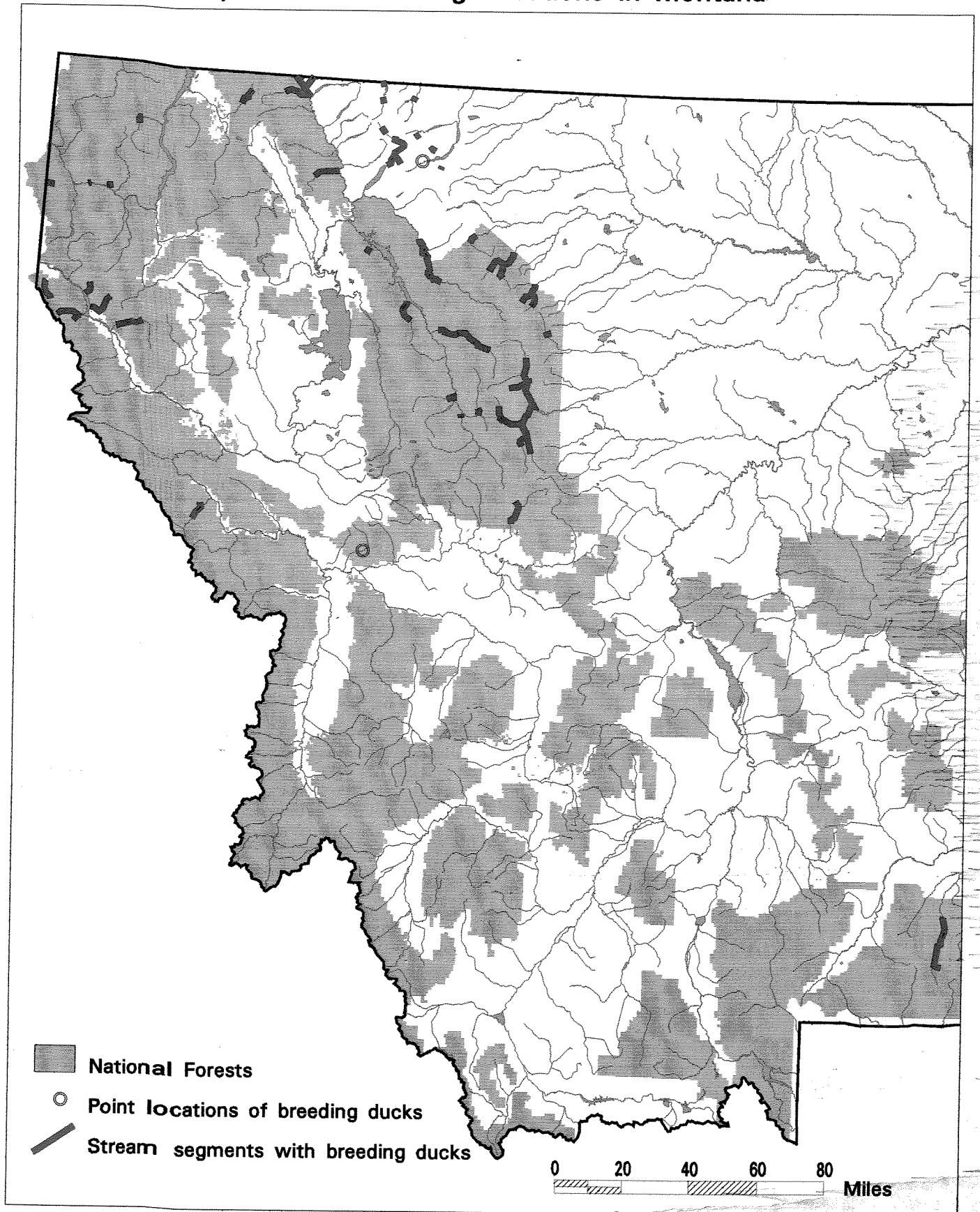
Flathead National Forest. Pair surveys were conducted along 111 km of 8 streams during May-June 1994 (Appendix A). A minimum of 18 Harlequins (11 males, 7 females) were seen on 4 streams (Appendix A & D). These included Big Creek (1 pair), Spotted Bear River (2♀), Sullivan Creek (1 pair) and Trail Creek (3 pairs plus 6♂). The Trail Creek survey was during extremely high water and was probably an underestimate of the actual number of birds present; in fact no marked females were seen although a marked female was present with a brood in August.

Brood surveys were conducted along 133 km of 6 streams during July - August 1994 (Appendix A). A minimum of 66 different Harlequin Ducks were observed on 5 streams (Appendix A & D). These included: 1) Little Salmon River (1 ♀, 1 brood of 7 young); 2) Spotted Bear River (2 ♀, 2 broods of 4 and 5 young plus 3 birds which were probably a ♀ with a brood of 2), and 3) Sullivan Creek (2 ♀, 2 broods of 5 and 7 young); 4) Trail Creek (2 ♀, 2 broods of 3 and 1 young; at least one of the females was a different individual than seen in the spring count); and 5) White River (4 ♀, 4 broods of 1, 6, 6, and 7 young). This is by far the highest reproduction recorded in the South Fork Flathead River drainage.

Helena and Lolo National Forests. Brood surveys were conducted along 38 km of 3 streams during July 1994 (Appendix A). No Harlequin Ducks were observed on any stream (Appendix A), including the North Fork of the Blackfoot River (Lolo NF) where they have been observed in at least one of the past five years. However, we did have a report of a pair at a nest on the North Fork Blackfoot (Appendix B). We got the report in mid-July, too late to check on it. However, it seems unlikely that both a male and female would be present at the nest site.

Stillwater State Forest. Pair surveys were conducted along 40 km of 3 streams in May and June 1994 (Appendix A). A minimum of 4 different Harlequin Ducks (3 ♀, 1 ♂) were observed on Swift Creek (Appendix A & D). A single brood survey of 18 km on Swift Creek was made in August 1994, but no harlequins were seen (Appendix A).

Figure 1. Harlequin Duck Breeding Locations in Montana



### **Breeding Chronology**

Breeding was early again this year, probably due to rapid spring runoff in May. As a result, many females apparently began incubation by mid-May. All young were nearly or completely fledged by the end of July on the Lower Clark Fork and North Fork Flathead drainages and 6 August on the South Fork Flathead drainages. This may have caused us to miss some broods on streams in both the lower Clark Fork drainage and Trail Creek. However, very low reproduction on Logan Creek this year, and high reproduction on the South Fork Flathead drainages make evaluation of this situation questionable.

### **Reproduction**

Harlequins were present this year on at least 11 streams in the study area (not including Glacier National Park) and adult females or broods were seen on 8 of those streams. A minimum of 35 adult females were present. Late-July to early-August brood size on all streams averaged 4.00 (n=10). This was higher than in 1992 (3.27) or 1993 (2.81). Most broods were seen in Class III or fledged stages of development (Bellrose 1976:27), and we made no adjustment for age of broods in our calculation of mean brood size.

We identified 30 individual females on streams during spring and summer surveys. In addition, 5 females were identified during summer surveys where no spring surveys were conducted. Of 30 potential broods on streams surveyed both in spring for pairs and summer for broods, a minimum of 10 broods were produced for a 33% success rate of broods per adult female (Table 1). From 1989 to 1994 (Table 2), the success rate averaged 44.8% (range = 24-55%; n = 230 pairs on 35 streams). In 1994, the differences in numbers of young produced between the South Fork Flathead drainage (50) and other drainages (17 plus ?? in Glacier



National Park) were large. Annual differences in success rates from 1989-1992 were primarily associated with the amount and timing of runoff. High runoff, particularly in June-early July, and runoff in years with "double peaks" caused lower reproductive success. This was particularly evident in 1991 (Reichel and Genter 1994) the only year where runoff exceeded 20,000 cfs and when production was lowest (24%). The changes in reproductive success were primarily due to changes in numbers of broods per pair, not changes in the size of successful broods. This indicated that differences in mortality were due to events that affected entire clutches or very young broods during that time period. This pattern was not evident in the 1994 season. The runoff was not particularly high, nor did it have a pronounced double peak. There were no obvious differences between runoff patterns on the South Fork Flathead drainages vs Middle Fork, North Fork, or Lower Clark Fork where success rates were very low. While rates are not statistically comparable because pair counts were not on 2 of 4 South Fork drainage streams surveyed for broods, differences appeared large in both number of broods and brood sizes. It seems apparent that our understanding of factors contributing to the success or failure of harlequin reproduction is still far from complete.

### **Capture and Marking**

We continued to make progress during the third year of the juvenile Harlequin Duck site fidelity and survival study. A total of 19 juvenile birds from 5 drainages were captured and marked (Table 3, Appendix D). Seven adult males and 7 adult females were also marked in 1994 (Table 3, Appendix D). This is a lower number than 1992 or 1993 due to a combination of: 1) low reproduction on many streams, 2) many adults present were marked in previous years, and 3) difficulty capturing some broods.

## Relocation of Marked Birds

Table 4 lists when and where adults were marked and relocated, and if other ducks were present at the time; this does not include birds from Glacier National Park which are reported by Ashley (1994a, 1994b). One additional marked female was seen on the Spotted Bear River, but the markers not seen well enough to identify the individual. Of 6 adult birds marked in 1991 with nasal markers, 5 have been seen in subsequent years; however, 2 males not seen in 1992 were relocated in 1993, and 1 male not seen either in 1992 or 1993 was recaptured in 1994; at least 3 of the 6 were still alive in 1994. Of 11 adult birds marked with nasal discs in 1992, 6 were relocated in 1993 and 2 in 1994. Of 13 adult birds marked in 1993, 6 were relocated in 1994. Preliminarily, these numbers seem low; data will be fully analyzed when more data becomes available following the 1995 season.

A total of 62 juveniles were marked in 1992, 40 in Glacier National Park, 4 on Trail Creek, 7 on the Spotted Bear River, and 11 on Marten Creek. Young birds are thought to spend their first summer on the ocean, migrating to the breeding grounds as two-year-olds. Nine two-year-olds were seen in 1994, 8 females on McDonald Creek (Ashley 1994b) and 1 female on Trail Creek. All were on their natal streams, and only the female on Trail Creek successfully raised young.

In Grand Teton National Park, of all birds marked as juveniles only females have returned to the park (Rick Wallen, pers. comm.), and 2 females of 5 juveniles banded in Glacier National Park in 1974 returned in 1976 (Kuchel 1977). The evidence is mounting that only females return to their natal streams, while males go elsewhere to breed. This makes sense from an evolutionary perspective, reducing the chances of inbreeding and its associated problems. We do not know, however, if most or all females return to their natal streams.

## Movements

Two movements of note were detected in 1994. Two Harlequins marked on McDonald Creek, Glacier National Park were recaptured or relocated along the southeastern coast of Vancouver Island in August 1994. On 11 August 1994 a male (765-27577), marked as juvenile exactly two years earlier, was captured at Shelter Point on the coast south of the Cambell River. The bird was molting but appeared healthy and the following measurements were taken: weight: 620 g; wing: 115 mm; tarsus: 37.1 mm; culmen (ml): 27.4 mm; Molt 2b. One white plastic leg band was missing and the two original color bands remaining were faded and removed. Green plastic band with white alpha-numeric 7G was placed on the right leg (metal band remained on left). On 6 August 1994, a male (755-76063), marked as an adult male 7 May 1993, was captured at Heron Rocks, Hornby Island, Straits of Georgia; this male was captured at the same location 4 Aug 1993 (Reichel and Genter 1994). The bird appeared healthy and the following measurements were taken: weight: 640 g; wing: 115 mm; tarsus: 37.8 mm; culmen (ml): 27.6 mm; Molt 2a. The orange plastic leg band on the right leg was missing, while the metal band on that leg, and the green and orange bands on the left leg, remained in place.

Table 1. Harlequin Duck reproduction in 1994 for streams with both pair and brood (at fledging) information.

<u>Stream</u>	<u>#Adult??</u>	<u>#Broods</u>	<u>#Young</u>
<b>North Fork Flathead Drainage</b>			
Big Creek	1	0	0
<u>Trail Creek</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
Drainage Total	5	2	4
0.40 Broods per adult female			
0.80 Young per adult female			
2.00 Young per brood			
=====			
<b>Lower Clark Fork Drainage</b>			
Marten Creek	5	0	0
Rock Creek	4	1	3
<u>Vermilion River</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>
Drainage Total	11	2	9
0.18 Broods per adult female			
0.82 Young per adult female			
4.50 Young per brood			
=====			
<b>Other</b>			
Grave Creek	5	1	4
Spotted Bear River	3	3	11
Sullivan Creek	2	2	12
<u>Swift Creek</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Other Total	14	6	27
0.43 Broods per adult female			
1.93 Young per adult female			
4.50 Young per brood			
=====			
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	30	10	40
0.33 Broods per adult female			
1.33 Young per adult female			
4.00 Young per brood			

Table 2. Harlequin Duck reproductive parameters 1988-1994.

Year	# adult females	# broods	# young	broods per ad. female	young per ad. female	young per brood
1989	13	7	41	54%	3.15	5.86
1990*	31	17	65	55%	2.10	3.82
1991*	37	9	31	24%	0.84	3.44
1992*	71	39	132	55%	1.37	3.38
1993	48	21	59	44%	1.23	2.81
1994	30	10	40	33%	1.33	4.00
Total	230	103	368			
Mean				44.8%	1.60	3.57

\* includes data from the Rocky Mountain Front (Diamond and Finnegan 1992, 1993)

Table 3. Summary of harlequin ducks marked in 1994.

Location	Male	Female	Juv.	Total
McDonald Creek, Glacier NP	1	2	1	4
Trail Creek, Flathead Co.		1	3	4
Grave Creek, Lincoln Co.		1	4	5
Sullivan Creek, Flathead Co.			6	6
Vermilion River, Sanders Co.			5	5
Marten Creek, Sanders Co.	3	1		4
Rock Creek, Sanders Co.	3	2		5
TOTAL	7	7	19	33

Table 4. Sightings and recaptures in Montana of adult Harlequins marked in Montana 1991-1993 and adult females marked in spring 1994.

Stream/Bird	Sex	1991			1992			1993			1994		
		Spr	Sum		Spr	Sum		Spr	Sum		Spr	Sum	
Marten Creek													
765-27556	♀			W/♂27555		W/4j		W/♂		W/4j		W/♂09302	not seen
765-27559	♀			W/♂27560		W/4j		seen		not seen		not seen	not seen
755-76007	♀					W/1j				W/1j**		not seen	not seen
755-76011	♀					W/4j				not seen		W/♂	not seen
755-76074	♀							W/♂		not seen		W/♂38624	not seen
755-76095	♀									W/4j		W/♂	not seen
925-09303	♀											W/♂09304	not seen
Vermilion River													
765-27555	♂			W/♀27556				not seen				not seen	
765-27560	♂			W/♀27559				W/♀				alone	
765-27557	♂			W/♂27558				not seen				not seen	
765-27558	♂			W/♂27557				not seen				alone	
765-27561	♂							alone				not seen	
755-76075	♂											not seen	
755-76076	♂							alone				alone	
755-76078	♂							W/♀76074				not seen	
Vermilion River													
755-76079	♀									W/4j		W/♂	W/6j
755-76086	♀									W/2j		not seen	not seen
765-27562	♂							alone				not seen	
Rock Creek													
755-76097	♀												
925-09305	♀									W/2j		W/♂	not seen
925-09309	♀											W/♂09306	not seen
Trail Creek													
755-76045	♀												
765-27564	♀					W/4j		W/♂76070		W/3j		not seen	not seen
765-27566	♀					W/4j		W/♂27563		not seen		not seen	not seen
775-38617	♀					not seen		W/♂76073		W/5j		not seen	not seen
Trail Creek													
765-27563	♂												
765-27565	♂							W/♀27564				alone	
765-27567	♂							not seen				not seen	
755-76070	♂							not seen				not seen	
755-76071	♂							W/♀76045				not seen	
755-76072	♂							W/♀				not seen	
755-76073	♂							alone				not seen	
Spotted Bear River													
765-27596	♀							W/♀27566				alone	
Spotted Bear River													
765-27596	♀					W/3j		not seen		not seen		not seen	??W/5j

?? = not certainly this bird (colors not seen clearly)

\*\*\* Seen on Swamp Creek

\*\* Seen on Swamp Creek ?? = not certainly this bird (colors not seen clearly)

## MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESEARCH NEEDS

Adult Harlequins show strong fidelity to breeding sites (Bengtson 1972, Kuchel 1977, Dzinbal 1982, Wallen 1987, Reichel and Genter 1994). The extent of fidelity to natal areas by adults breeding for the first time is unknown, but is likely to be strong. Colonization of currently unoccupied streams is likely to be a rare event. Harlequins appear sensitive to human disturbance (Clarkson 1992, Cassirer and Groves 1991). Repeated disturbances may discourage nesting at traditional sites and reduce productivity (Rodrick and Milner 1991). However, proximity to trails and roads does not always correlate with reduced reproductive success. Sixty percent of Harlequin sites were within 50 m of trails on the Rocky Mountain Front (Diamond and Finnegan 1992). In this case, most Harlequin streams are located in roadless or wilderness areas and receive limited human activity prior to or during the nesting period.

Mid-stream loafing sites are important in breeding areas (Cassirer and Groves 1990). Brood rearing areas in Idaho and Montana west of the Continental Divide typically have a dense shrub or timber/shrub mosaic on the banks (Cassirer and Groves 1989, Gangemi 1991). East of the Divide in Montana stream banks are more open, and most observation sites had banks composed of gravel, grass-forb, or bedrock habitat (Diamond and Finnegan 1992, Markum and Genter 1990). Low benthic macroinvertebrate biomass may limit the number and productivity of Harlequins (Bengtson and Ulfstrand 1971, Kuchel 1977). A Harlequin Duck Conservation Strategy is currently being written for the Northern Rocky Mountains and a draft should be available in spring of 1995. It will include management recommendations, monitoring and surveying protocols, and, research priorities. In the interim, we recommend the following management strategies on Harlequin streams:



- 1) minimize unnecessary human activity along Harlequin Duck nesting streams during late April through August;
- 2) a stream buffer of  $> 50$  m should be maintained for most activities; roads and trails should be  $> 100$  m from streams and preferably not visible from the streams;
- 3) major activities (road building, timber harvest, fisheries enhancements, restoration projects, etc.) that are to be undertaken within 300 m of a stream should be done during the period 15 August - 1 April;
- 4) minor activities within stream buffers (e.g. trail maintenance or reconstruction) should not be preformed during 1 May - 15 July;
- 5) avoid activities which will change stream runoff patterns or decrease water quality;
- 6) in any area where major management activities are to take place in potential Harlequin habitat, survey for the preceding two years both for pairs (May) and broods (mid-July to mid-August). If Harlequins are present, develop a monitoring plan for Harlequins during and after the activity is to take place.

Long term research and management needs involve:

- 1) develop a baseline status report of current and historic Harlequin populations in Montana (currently in preparation);
- 2) investigate site fidelity, inter-stream movement, reproduction and mortality to allow estimations and modeling of what constitutes a viable Harlequin population (began in 1992);

- 3) determining the primary limiting factors for Harlequin Duck populations in occupied and historic habitat situations in the Northern Rockies;
- 4) developing standardized surveying and monitoring protocols for occupied and potential Harlequin Duck nesting streams (currently in preparation);
- 5) developing management guidelines for maintaining Harlequin populations and habitat (currently in preparation); and
- 6) assess the impacts of past and current habitat modification and develop techniques to restore Harlequin populations and habitat.

## APPENDICES

# Appendix A. Streams surveyed for Harlequin Ducks in 1994.

Stream & Segment	Date	kms	Harlequins						
			M	F	J	U	Pr	Br	
<b>Kootenai National Forest</b>									
Big Creek (T34N,R30W,S20 to T34N,R29W,S3)	7 May	18							
Grave Creek (T36N,R25W,S22 to T37N,R24W,S32)	8 May	8		2			3		
T35N,R26W,S12 to T36N,R25W,S11	31 Jul	12		1	4			1	
T36N,R25W,S14 to T37N,R24W,S32	1 Aug	6			1				
Marten Creek (T25N,R32W,S32 to T25N,R33W,S27)	4 May	9	3				5		
S.Fork T24N,R33W,S11 to T25N,R32W,S31)	4 May	4	1						
T25N,R32W,S32 to T25N,R33W,S26	29 Jul	6							
S.Fork (T24N,R33W,S11 to T25N,R32W,S31)	29 Jul	3							
Rock Creek (T26N,R32W,S28 to S10)	5 May	10	1				3		
T26N,R32W,S29 to S2	28 July	14		1	3			1	
Swamp Creek (T25N,R31W,S3 to T25N,R32W,S14)	6 May	16	1						
Vermillion R. (T24N,R31W,S14 to T24N,R29W,S15)	3 May	22	1				2		
T24N,R31W,S14 to T25N,R29W,S1	29-30 Jul	15		1	6			1	
Wigwam Creek (T37N,R25W,S16 to S10)	6 June	4							
<b>Helena National Forest</b>									
Landers Fork of the Blackfoot River									
T16N,R8W,S27 to T14N,R8W,12	14 July	20							
<b>Lolo National Forest</b>									
Monture Creek (T17N,R12W,S32 to T16N,R12W,S20)	13 July	12							
North Fork Blackfoot River									
T17N,R10W,S31 to T16N,R11W,S12	15 Jul	6							

Table 1. (cont.) Streams surveyed for Harlequin Ducks in 1994.

Stream	Date	kms	M	F	J	U	Pr	Br
Stillwater State Forest								
Stillwater River (T34N,R24W,S5 to S17)	6 June	4						
T34N,R24W,S17 to T34N,R25W,S25	25 May	8						
Swift Creek (T33N,R23W,S3 to T33N,R23W,S24)	11 May	8	1					
T33N,R23W,S24 to T31N,R22W,S5	23 May	20	3	1				
T33N,R22W,S30 to T31N,R22W,S5	10 Aug	18						
Flathead National Forest								
Big Creek (T33N,R20W,S30 to S22)	19 May	6						
T33N,R21W,S33W to T33N,R20W,S30	3 June	15						1
T33N,R21W,S33W to T33N,R20W,S22	2-3 Aug	21						
Bunker Creek (T24N,R15W,S26 to T24N,14W,S20)	26 May	8						
Canyon Creek (T32N,R20W,S29 to T32N,R20W,S27)	4 June	5						
Coal Creek (T34N,R21W,S28 to S36)	8 Jun	8						
T34N,R21W,S36 to T34N,R20W,S20	13 May	7						
Little Salmon (T22N,R15W,S20 to T22N,R14W,S23)	21,24-5 Jul	24	1	7				1
Spotted Bear (T25N,R14W,S14 to T25N,R15W,S17)	27 May	16	2					
T25N,R13W,S22 to T25N,R15W,S17	6 Aug	25	2	9	3			3 (2,4,5)
Sullivan Creek (T26N,R16W,S32 to T26N,R17W,S1)	9 June	15				1		
T26N,R16W,S31 to T27N,R17W,S36	5 Aug	15	2	12				2 (5,7)
Trail Crk (T37N,R23W,S36 to T37N,R22W,S36)	9 May	22	6			3		
T36N,R23W,S6SWNW to T26N,R22W,S36	1-2 Aug	28	2	4				2 (3,1)
Upper Twin Crk (T26N,R15W,S22 to T26N,R16W,S25)	27 May	9						
White River (T22N,R13W,S24 to T21N,R13W,S8)	22-23 Jul	20	4	20				4 (1,6,6,7)

Appendix B. Miscellaneous reports of Harlequin Ducks during 1994  
and reports for prior years received during 1994

Appendix B. Miscellaneous reports of Harlequin Ducks during 1994 and reports for prior years received during 1994.

Stream & Location	Date	Harlequins					Observer
		M	F	J	U	Pr	
<b>Kootenai National Forest</b>							
Elk Creek							
East Fork T26N,R34W,S21 NW4	26 April 94					1	J.K. Werner
Grave Creek (T36N,R25W,S14 NW4NW4)	15 May 94	1	2				J.K. Werner
<b>Lolo National Forest</b>							
North Fork Blackfoot River, ½ mile above N. Fork Cabin	1 June 94					1	John Nichols
reported pair present with nest of 5 eggs (report did not come in until mid-July)							
<b>Glacier National Park</b>							
Avalanche Lake	6 June 94					1	Roy Arscott
McDonald Creek							
(½ mi above Avalanche Ck Campground)	12 Sept 94			5			Judy Hoy
<b>IDAHO</b>							
Moyie River	7 May 94				5		Jill Davies
<b>WYOMING</b>							
Shell Creek Canyon	1978	x	x				John McGough
has not seen any in the last 10 years there							

## **Appendix C. Data forms**



Harlequin Duck Survey Form. \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ Surveyor(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Start/Finish)

Stream \_\_\_\_\_

Include map with exact area(s) surveyed on back of this page

Weather \_\_\_\_\_  
(Temp., wind dir & speed, cloud cover, precip last 24 hrs)

Accessibility? \_\_\_\_\_

Group # \_\_\_\_\_ # Individuals \_\_\_\_\_  
(Put on map)

Sexes & Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Marked? \_\_\_\_\_

Accessibility? \_\_\_\_\_

Group # \_\_\_\_\_ # Individuals \_\_\_\_\_  
(Put on map)

Sexes & Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Marked? \_\_\_\_\_

Accessibility? \_\_\_\_\_

Group # \_\_\_\_\_ # Individuals \_\_\_\_\_  
(Put on map)

Sexes & Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Marked? \_\_\_\_\_

Accessibility? \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

Harlequin Duck Banding Form.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_\_ N, R \_\_\_\_\_ W, Section \_\_\_\_\_

Band # \_\_\_\_\_ Lft \_\_\_\_\_ Rt \_\_\_\_\_ Lt \_\_\_\_\_ Rt \_\_\_\_\_  
Nasal Saddles Color Bands

Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Wing chord \_\_\_\_\_ Tail \_\_\_\_\_ Tarsus \_\_\_\_\_

Molt \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_  
(with other ducks? marked, sex, age? etc.)

+++++

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_\_ N, R \_\_\_\_\_ W, Section \_\_\_\_\_

Band # \_\_\_\_\_ Lft \_\_\_\_\_ Rt \_\_\_\_\_ Lt \_\_\_\_\_ Rt \_\_\_\_\_  
Nasal Saddles Color Bands

Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Wing chord \_\_\_\_\_ Tail \_\_\_\_\_ Tarsus \_\_\_\_\_

Molt \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_  
(with other ducks? marked, sex, age? etc.)

+++++

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_\_ N, R \_\_\_\_\_ W, Section \_\_\_\_\_

Band # \_\_\_\_\_ Lft \_\_\_\_\_ Rt \_\_\_\_\_ Lt \_\_\_\_\_ Rt \_\_\_\_\_  
Nasal Saddles Color Bands

Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Wing chord \_\_\_\_\_ Tail \_\_\_\_\_ Tarsus \_\_\_\_\_

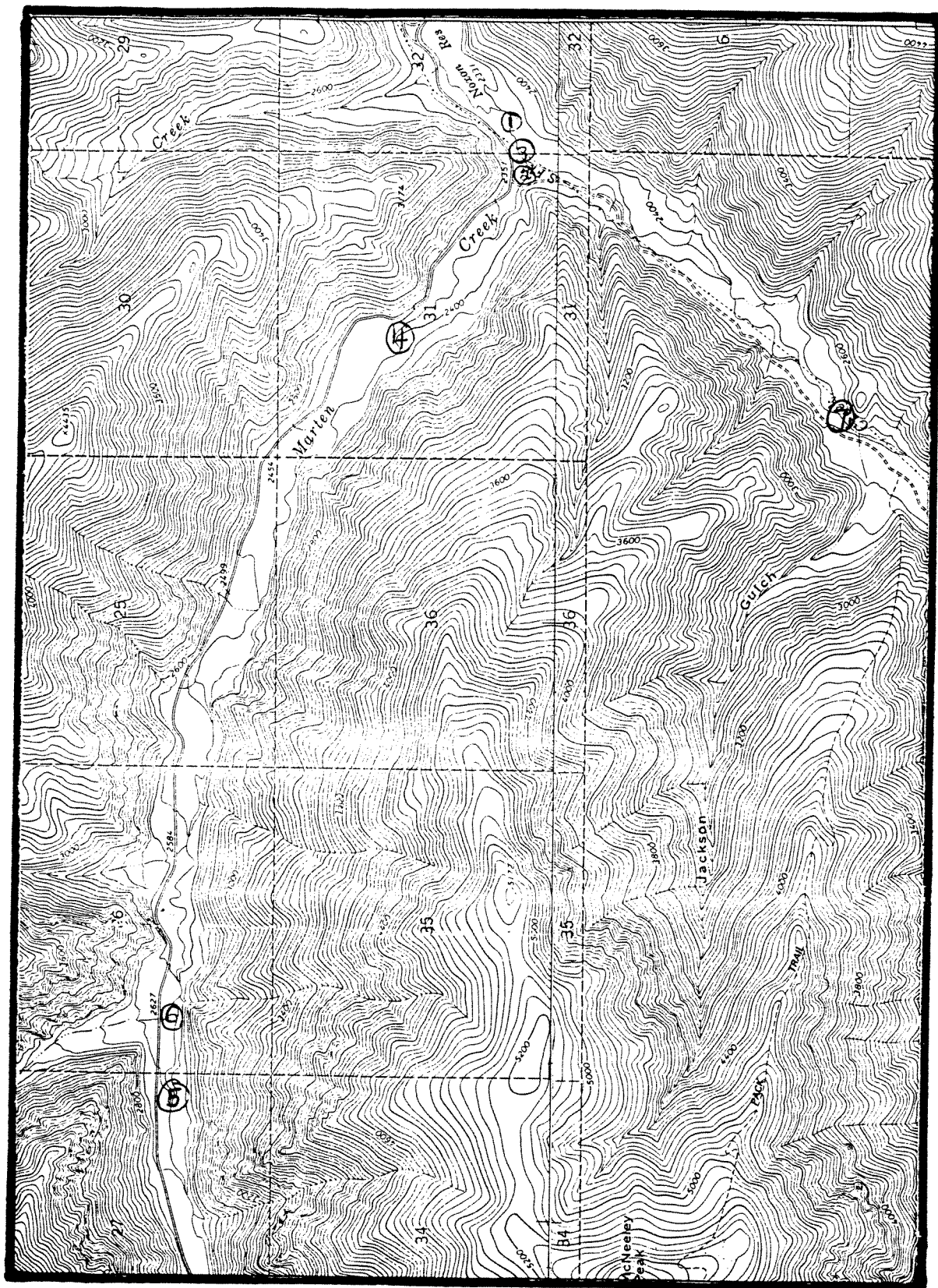
Molt \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_  
(with other ducks? marked, sex, age? etc.)

+++++

NOTES:

Appendix D. List of Harlequin Ducks marked in 1994  
or marked in previous years and sighted in 1994.



Marten Creek Harlequin Duck marking sites  
USGS quad: Bloom Peak & Noxon

Appendix D. List of Harlequin Ducks marked in 1994 or marked in previous years and sighted in 1994.

Harlequin Duck marking outside Glacier National Park utilizing nasal discs and USFWS bands.

C = Circle	red = red	yel = yellow
T = Triangle	grn = green	blk = black
S = Square	blu = blue	wht = white
	ora = orange	

Marten Creek, Kootenai National Forest, Sanders Co., MT

Site	USFWS Band #	Nasal Discs	
		left	right
1) 4 May 94			
** Adult Female	755-76011	T-yel	T-grn
marked 4 Aug 92 with 4 juveniles; paired with unmarked male			
** Adult Male	755-76076	C-grn	S-ora
marked 26 May 93 with one unmarked male			
2) 4 May 94			
** Adult Male	?	T-yel	?
(probably 765-27558 seen later at site 4)			
3) 4 May 94			
** Adult Female	755-76095	S-ora	T-yel
(caught 29 Jul 93 with brood of 4 chicks)			
4) 4 May 94			
** Adult Male	765-27558	T-yel	T-yel
(caught 29 May 91 with adult male 765-27557)			
Adult Male	775-38624	C-blu	C-grn
** Adult Female	755-76074	C-grn	C-whi
(marked 26 May 93 with adult male 755-76078)			
Adult Male	925-09302	C-blu	T-yel
** Adult Female	765-27556	T-blk	T-blk
(caught 15 May 91 with adult male 765-27555; had brood of 4 chicks 5 Aug 92)			
5) 4 May 94			

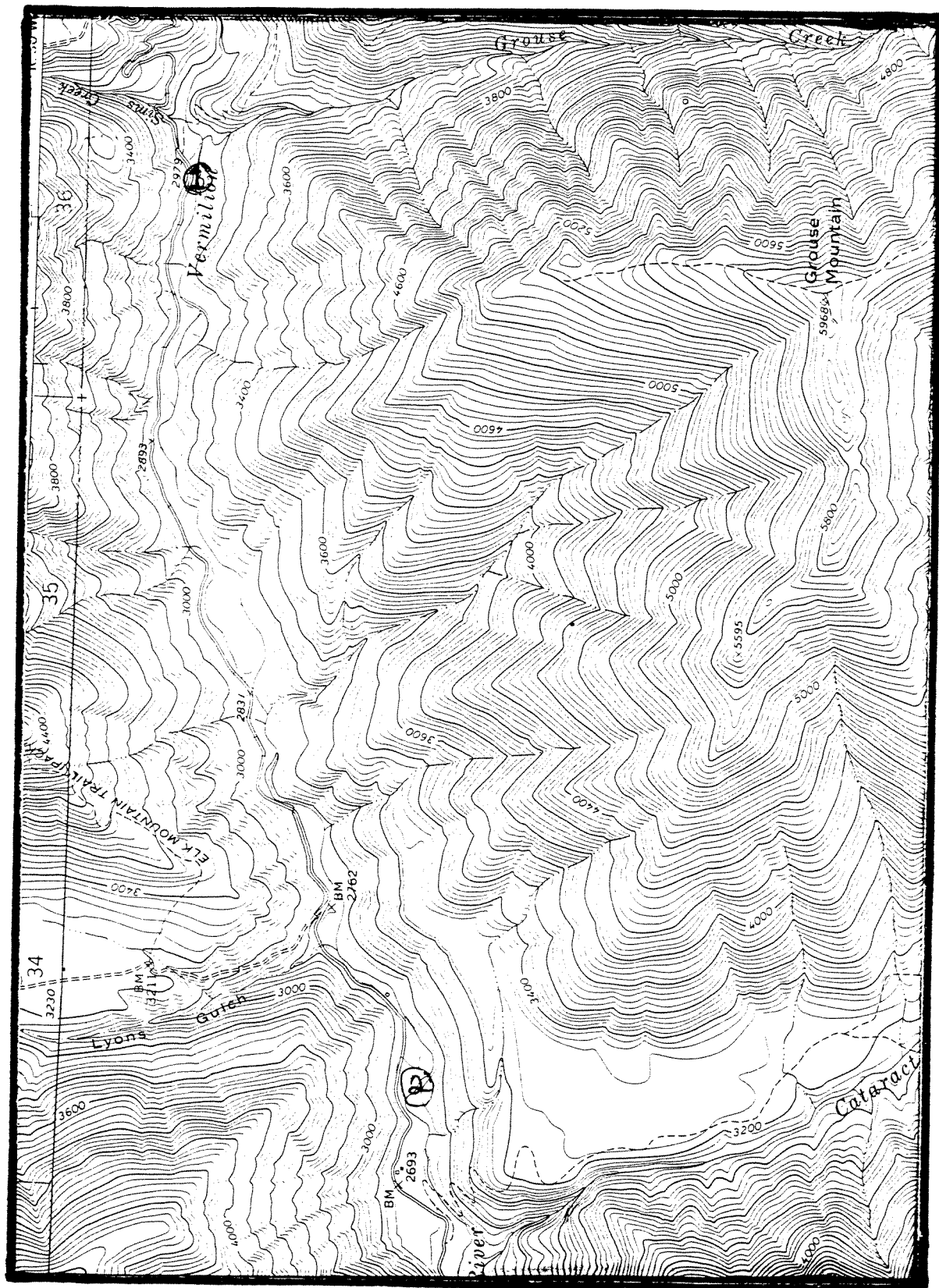
Adult Female	925-09303	C-blu	S-blu
Adult Male	925-09304	C-blu	S-blu

6) 4 May 94

\*\* Adult Male      765-27560      S-ora      S-ora  
(caught with adult female 755-76018 on 30 May 91)

7) 4 May 94

\*\* Adult Male      755-76076      C-grn      S-ora  
(with unmarked male; caught 26 May 93 with unmarked male)



Vermilion River Harlequin Duck marking sites  
USGS quad: Seven Point Mountain

# Appendix D (cont.)

Harlequin Duck marking outside Glacier National Park utilizing nasal discs and USFWS bands.

C = Circle	red = red	yel = yellow
T = Triangle	grn = green	blk = black
S = Square	blu = blue	wht = white
	ora = orange	

## Vermilion River, Kootenai National Forest, Sanders Co., MT

1) 3 May 94

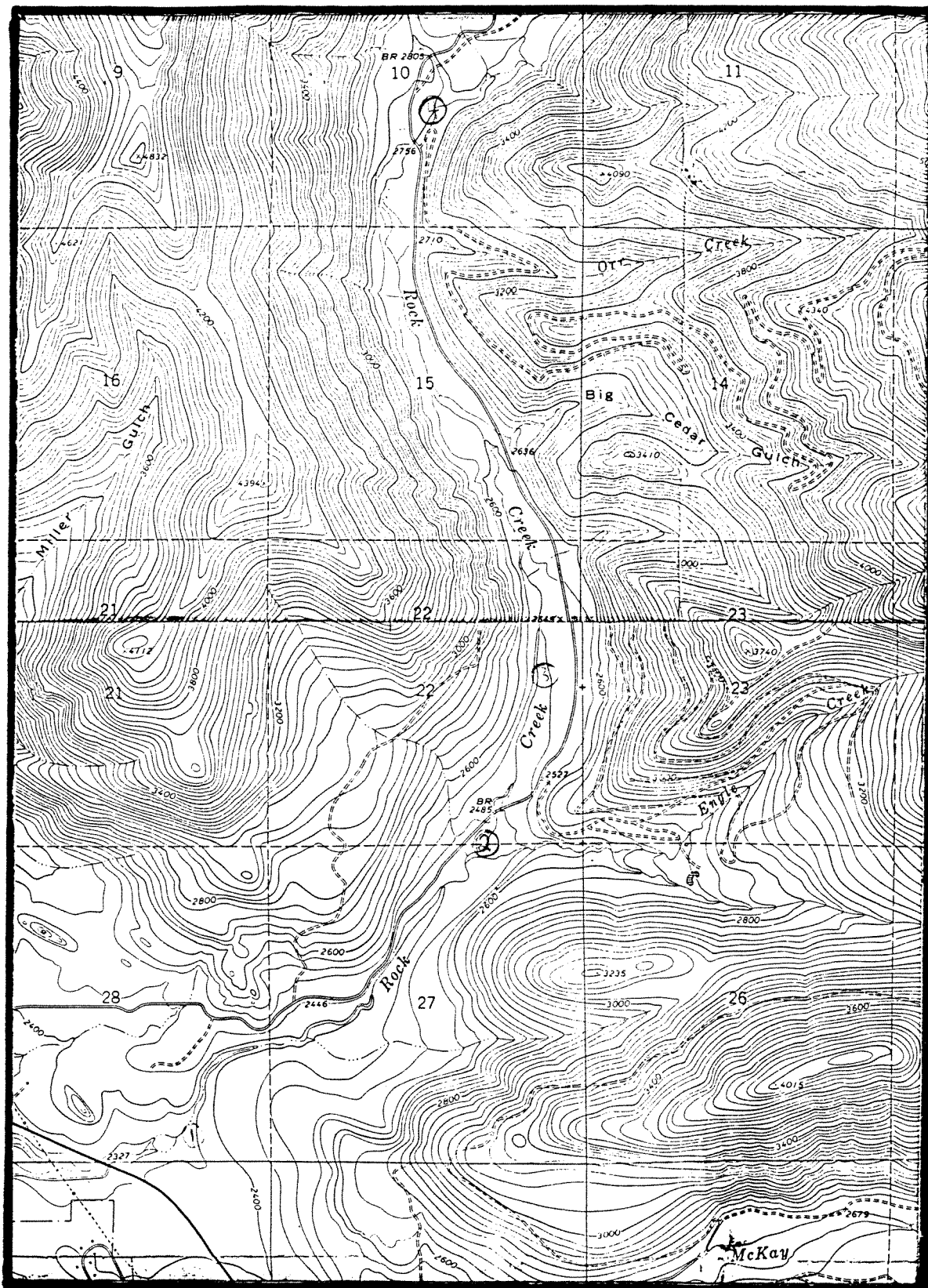
\*\* Adult Female 755-76079 S-ora C-grn  
with unmarked male; caught 28 July 93 with 4 young

2) 29 July 94

Juvenile	925-09311	T-yel	C-red
Juvenile	925-09312	T-blk	C-red
Juvenile	925-09313	S-grn	C-red
Juvenile	925-09314	C-blu	C-whi
Juvenile	925-09315	C-whi	C-blu
** Adult Female	755-76079	S-ora	C-grn

originally caught 28 July 93 with 4 young





Rock Creek Harlequin Duck marking sites  
 USGS quad: Elephant Peak & Noxon Rapids Dam

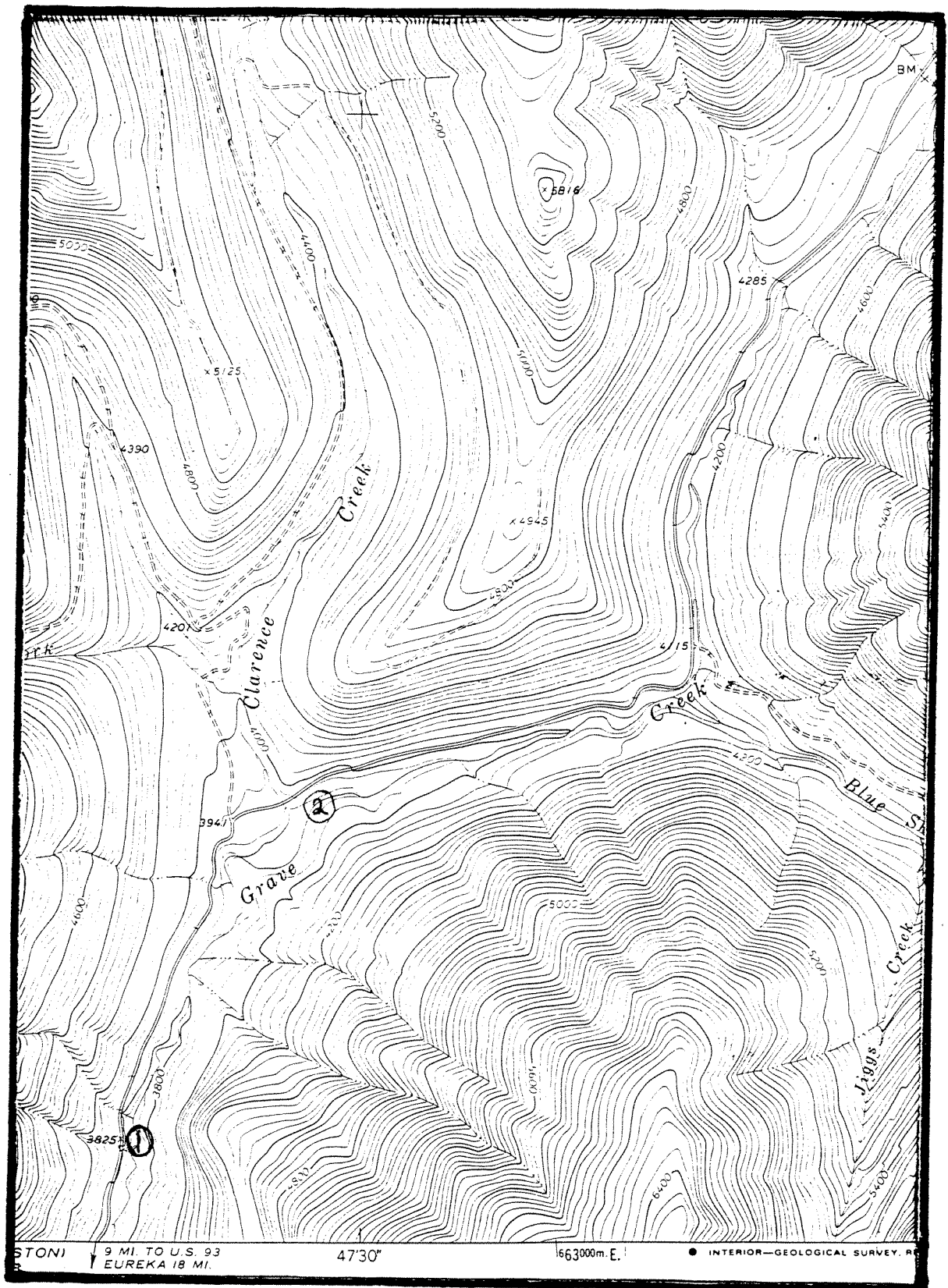
## Appendix D (cont.)

Harlequin Duck marking outside Glacier National Park utilizing nasal discs and USFWS bands.

C = Circle	red = red
T = Triangle	grn = green
S = Square	blu = blue
	yel = yellow
	blk = black
	wht = white
	ora = orange

### Rock Creek, Kootenai National Forest, Sanders Co., MT

- 1) 5 May 94  
\*\* Adult Female 755-76097 T-yel S-ora  
with unmarked male; marked 31 July 93 with 4 young
- 2) 5 May 94  
Adult Female 925-09305 S-blu C-grn  
Adult Male 925-09306 S-blu C-grn
- 3) 5 May 94  
Adult Male 925-09307 T-yel C-grn
- 4) 5 May 94  
Adult Male 925-09308 S-blu C-whi  
Adult Female 925-09309 S-blu C-whi



Grave Creek Harlequin marking sites  
USGS quad: Stahl Peak

## Appendix D (cont.)

Harlequin Duck marking outside Glacier National Park utilizing nasal discs and USFWS bands.

C = Circle	red = red
T = Triangle	grn = green
S = Square	blu = blue
	yel = yellow
	blk = black
	wht = white
	ora = orange

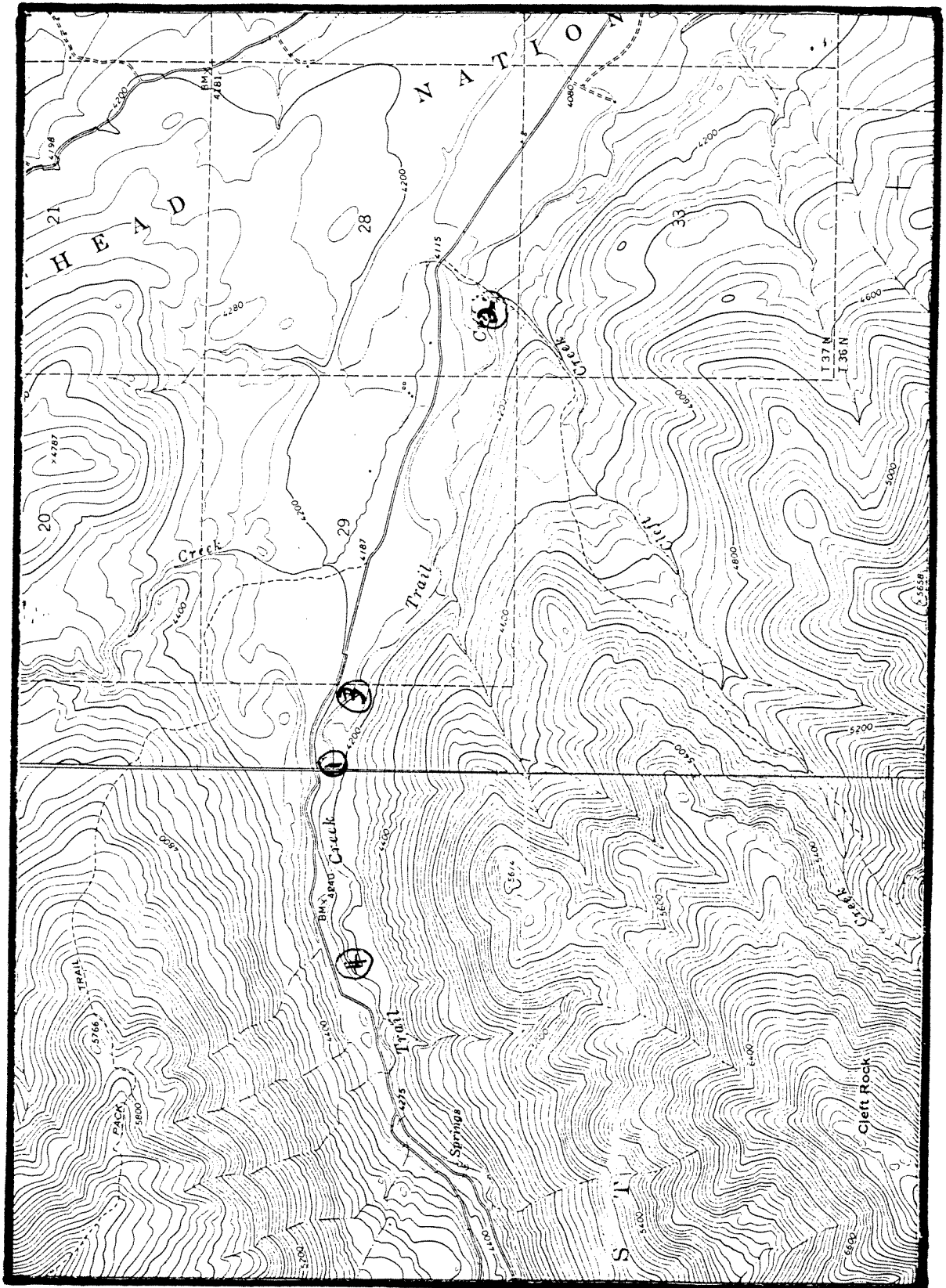
### Grave Creek, Kootenai National Forest, Lincoln Co., MT

#### 1) 31 July 94

Juvenile	925-09316	C-red	T-grn
Juvenile	925-09317	C-blu	C-red
Adult Female	925-09318	C-grn	C-blu
Juvenile	925-09319	no discs	
Juvenile	925-09320	T-grn	C-red

#### 2) 1 Aug 1994

\*\* Juvenile 925-09319 no discs  
sighting of bird marked 31 July 94



Trail Creek Harlequin Duck marking sites  
USGS quad: Trailcreek & Mount Hefty

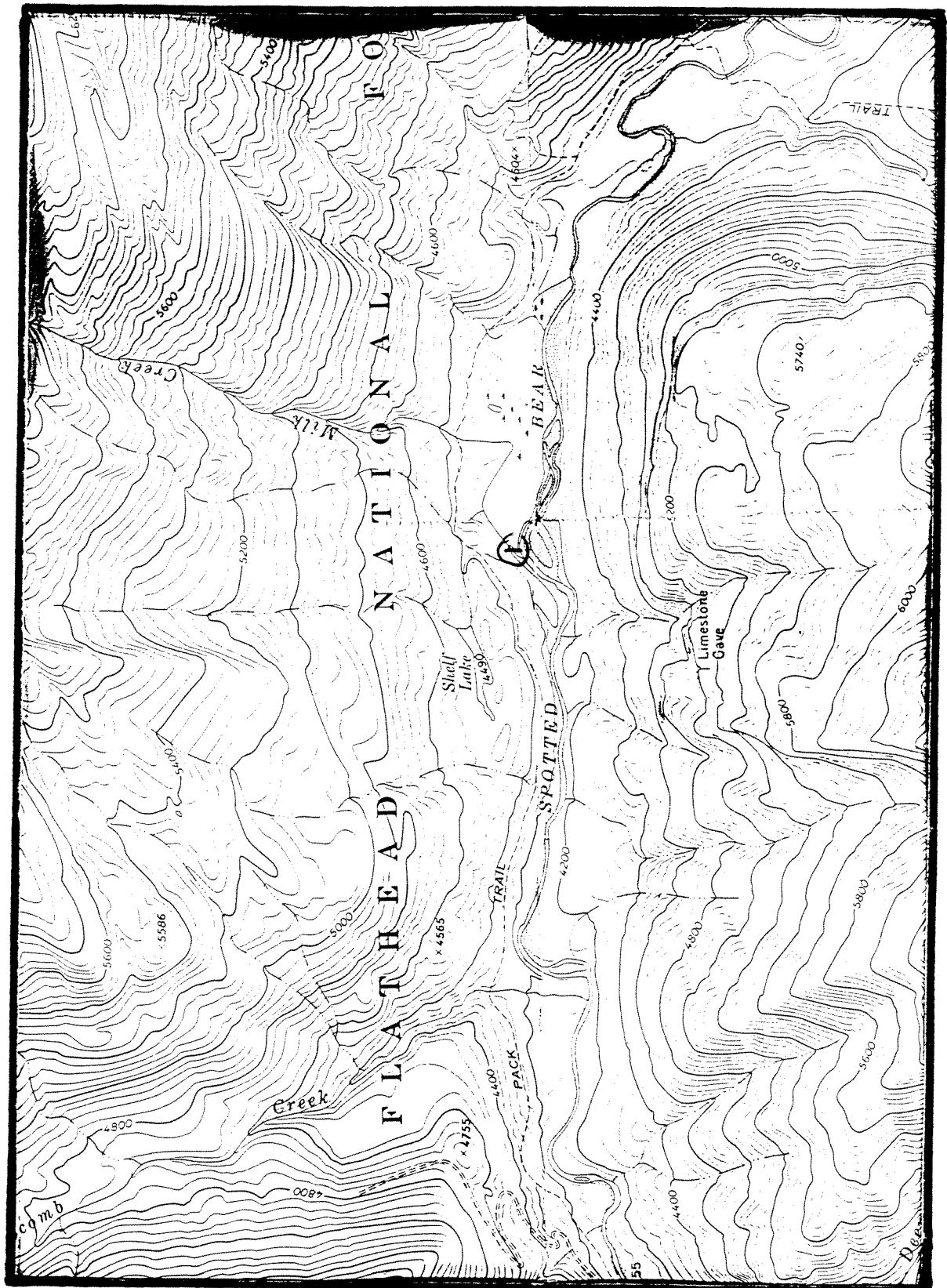
# Appendix D (cont.)

Harlequin Duck marking outside Glacier National Park utilizing nasal discs and USFWS bands.

C = Circle	red = red	yel = yellow
T = Triangle	grn = green	blk = black
S = Square	blu = blue	wht = white
	ora = orange	

## Trail Creek, Flathead National Forest, Flathead Co., MT

Site	USFWS Band #	Nasal Disks	
		left	right
1) 9 May 94			
** Adult Male	755-76073	S-blu	S-blu
	originally marked 9 May 93 with adult female 765-27566		
2) 9 May 94			
** Adult Male	765-27563	C-blu	C-blu
	originally marked 10 June 92 with adult female 765-27564 and seen again with her on 9 May 93		
3) 1 Aug 94			
Adult Female	925-09321	C-whi	S-blu
4) 1 Aug 94			
Juvenile	925-09322	S-ora	C-red
Juvenile	925-09323	S-grn	C-whi
Juvenile	925-09324	C-whi	S-grn
** Adult Female	755-76046	S-red	S-grn
	originally captured as a juvenile 12 Aug 92		



Spotted Bear River Harlequin Duck marking site  
USGS quad: Whitcomb Peak

## Appendix D (cont.)

Harlequin Duck marking outside Glacier National Park utilizing nasal discs and USFWS bands.

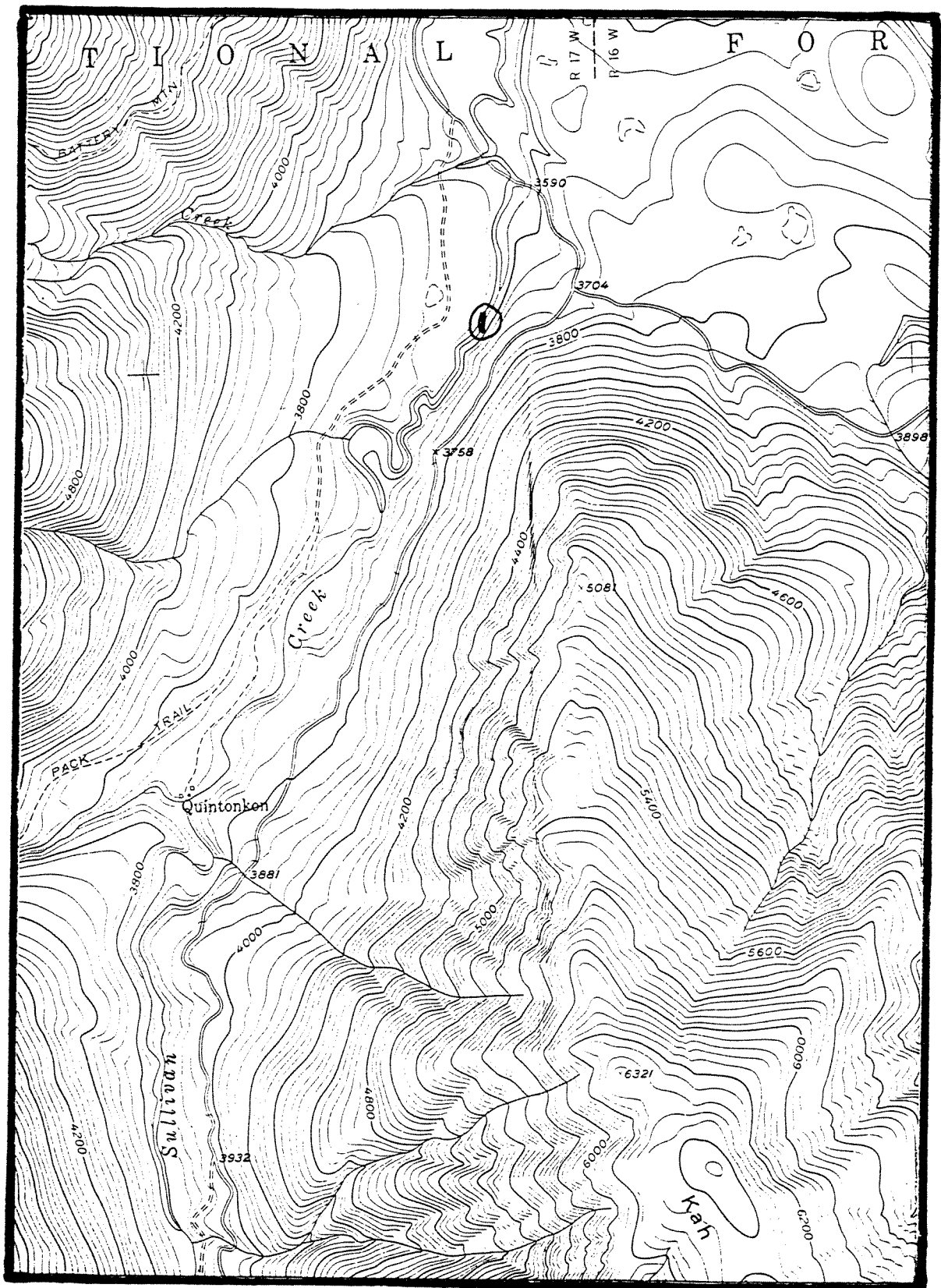
C = Circle	red = red
T = Triangle	grn = green
S = Square	blu = blue
	yel = yellow
	blk = black
	wht = white
	ora = orange

### Spotted Bear River, Flathead National Forest, Flathead Co., MT

1) 6 Aug 94

\*\* Adult Female    ????                    C-red            ??  
    marked in 1992, either an adult female or 1 of 7 juveniles





Sullivan Creek Harlequin Duck marking site  
USGS quad: Quintonkon

## Appendix D (cont.)

Harlequin Duck marking outside Glacier National Park utilizing nasal discs and USFWS bands.

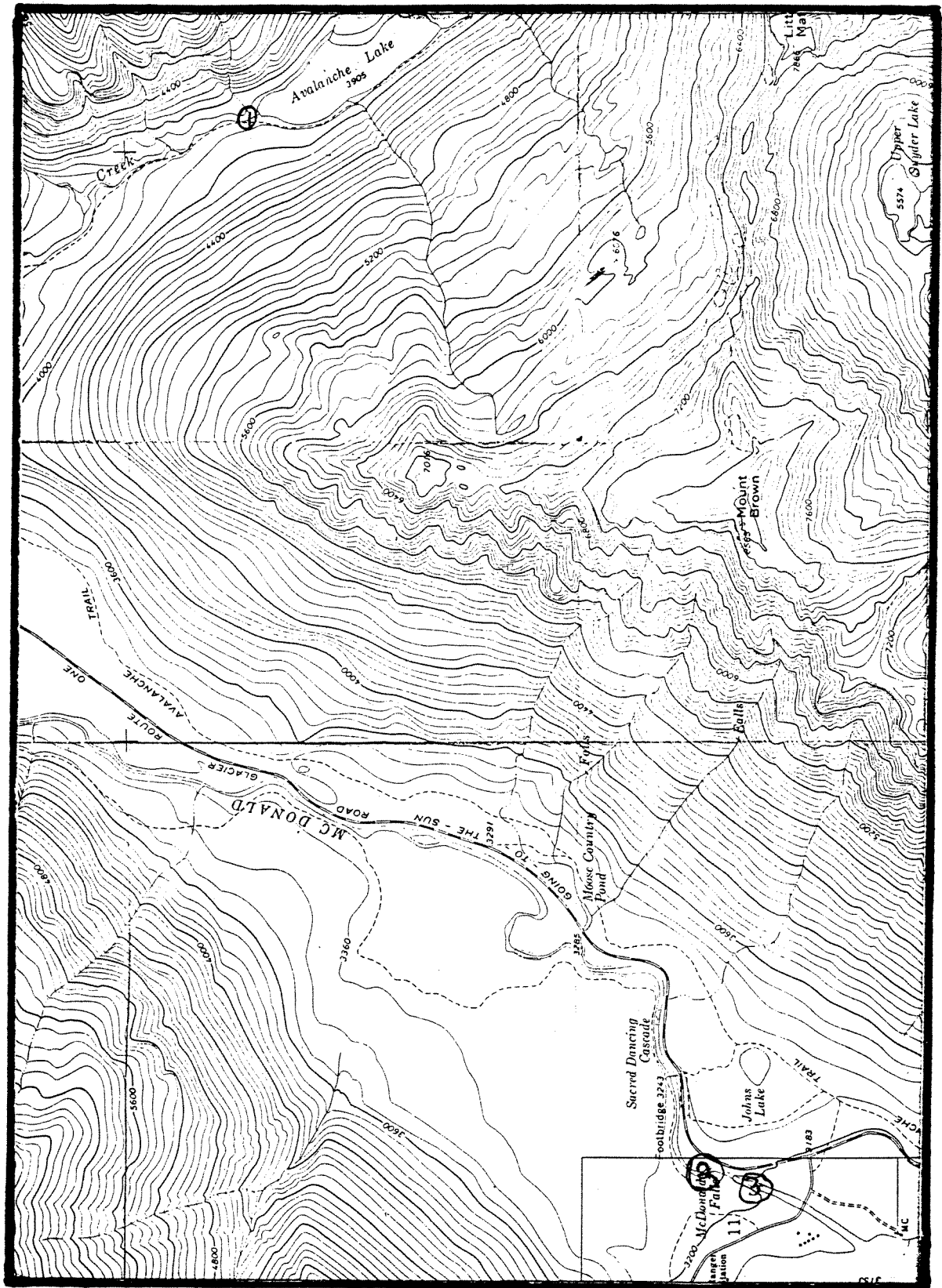
C = Circle	red = red
T = Triangle	grn = green
S = Square	blu = blue
O = Oval	yel = yellow
Y = Wishbone	blk = black
	wht = white
	ora = orange

### Sullivan Creek, Flathead National Forest, Flathead Co., MT

1) 5 Aug 94

Juvenile	925-09327	S-red	C-blu
Juvenile	925-09328	S-grn	S-blu
Juvenile	925-09329	S-blu	C-grn
Juvenile	925-09330	C-whi	T-blk
Juvenile	925-09331	C-grn	O-yel
Juvenile	925-09332	O-yel	C-grn

part of 2 broods of 5 and 7; 2 adult females were also present



Glacier National Park Harlequin Duck marking sites  
USGS quad: Mount Cannon

## Appendix D (cont.)

### Colored Leg Bands used in Glacier National Park

p = pink (pink/USFWS for 1992 & 1993 juveniles)  
 r = red  
 g = green                      w = white  
 b = blue                      o = orange  
 y = yellow                    s = silver (FWS band)

### Glacier National Park

Site	USFWS Band #	Plastic leg bands	
		left	right
1) 24 May 94			
Adult Male	925-09310	o/s	o/b
** Adult Female	755-76051	o/s	o/b
marked 10 Aug 92 with 2 young			
2) 4 Aug 94			
Adult Female	925-09325	y/s	y/b
Adult Female	925-09326	y/s	g/y
** Adult Female	755-76022	o/b	p/s
originally marked 10 Aug 92 as juvenile			
** Adult Female	755-76023		p/s
originally marked 10 Aug 92 as juvenile			
** Adult Female	755-76060	o/b	p/s
originally marked 6 May 93 with adult male			
(one additional adult female not captured)			
3) 19 Aug 94			
Juvenile Male	925-09333	o/s	o/p-32

Appendix E. Element Occurrence Records from 1994 Surveys

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.005  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: ROCK CREEK (NOXON)  
EO rank: D  
EO rank comments: 2 PAIRS PRESENT IN 1993, FEWER IN PREVIOUS YEARS.  
3-4 OTHER STREAMS WITHIN 20 KM WITH TOTAL OF 9-12  
PAIRS; ACCESS DIFFICULT, NO BOATING AND LITTLE  
FISHING.

County: SANDERS

USGS quadrangle: NOXON RAPIDS DAM  
ELEPHANT PEAK

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
026N 032W 27 15,22

Precision: M  
Survey date: Elevation: 2400 - 2680  
First observation: 1986 Slope/aspect:  
Last observation: 1994-07-28 Size (acres): 0

Location:  
ABOUT 1.5 AIR MILES NE OF NOXON RAPIDS DAM, WHERE FOREST SERVICE ROAD  
#150 FIRST INTERSECTS ROCK CREEK.

Element occurrence data:  
SPORADIC SIGHTINGS SINCE 1986; PROBABLY 1 OR 2 BROODS GENERALLY  
PRODUCED EACH YEAR. (SPECIFIC OBSERVATION DATA ON FILE AT MTNHP.)

General site description:  
A CA. 3 MILE STRETCH OF MOUNTAIN STREAM, EXTENDING UPSTREAM FROM  
MAPPED LOCATION.

Land owner/manager:  
KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST, CABINET RANGER DISTRICT  
PRIVATELY OWNED LAND (INDIVIDUAL OR CORPORATE)

Comments:  
FISH TRAP PLACED BY MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS.

Information source:

Specimens:

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.006  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: MARTEN CREEK  
EO rank: C/B  
EO rank comments: 5 PAIRS PRESENT IN 1993, FEWER IN PREVIOUS YEARS.  
3-4 OTHER STREAMS WITHIN 20 KM WITH WITH TOTAL OF  
9-12 PAIRS; NO BOATING, LITTLE FISHING.

County: SANDERS

USGS quadrangle: NOXON  
BLOOM PEAK

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
025N 032W 32 ADDITIONAL SECTIONS

Precision: M  
Survey date: Elevation: 2330 - 2850  
First observation: 1986 Slope/aspect:  
Last observation: 1993-07-29 Size (acres): 0

Location:

THE SOUTH AND NORTH FORKS OF MARTEN CREEK ARE ON THE WEST SIDE OF  
NOXON RESERVOIR, CA. 8 MILES NW OF TROUT CREEK.

Element occurrence data:

GENERALLY 2 TO 4 PAIRS BREED. (SPECIFIC OBSERVATION DATA ON FILE AT  
MTNHP.)

General site description:

MOUTH OF MARTEN CREEK IS MAPPED. THIS EO INCLUDES THE NORTH BRANCH  
(CA. 5 MILES) AND SOUTH BRANCH (CA. 1.5 MILES) AS CONTIGUOUS HABITAT.

Land owner/manager:

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST, CABINET RANGER DISTRICT  
PRIVATELY OWNED LAND (INDIVIDUAL OR CORPORATE)

Comments:

Information source: REICHEL, JAMES D. [ZOOLOGIST] MONTANA NATURAL  
HERITAGE PROGRAM, 1515 EAST SIXTH AVENUE, P.O. BOX  
201800, HELENA, MT 59620-1800. WORK: (406)  
444-3009.

Specimens:

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.008  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: VERMILION RIVER

EO rank: D/C

EO rank comments: 3 PAIRS PRESENT IN 1993, FEWER IN PREVIOUS YEARS. 3-4 OTHER STREAMS

WI  
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MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

SS

County: SANDERS

USGS quadrangle: TROUT CREEK  
SEVEN POINT MOUNTAIN  
VERMILLION PEAK  
MILLER LAKE

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
024N 031W 12 SW4

Precision: M

Survey date:

Elevation: 2340 - 3400

First observation: 1988

Slope/aspect:

Last observation: 1994-07-30

Size (acres): 0

Location:

FROM TROUT CREEK GO NORTH 1.5 MILES ON SR 200, RIGHT 5 MILES ON THE  
BLUE SLIDE ROAD, THEN LEFT 2 MILES UP THE VERMILLION RIVER ROAD.

Element occurrence data:

1988: HEN WITH 3 YOUNG OBSERVED. 1989: 2 FEMALES WITH BROODS OBSERVED,  
ONE IN MAPPED LOCATION, ONE IN T24N,R30W,8 (SEVERAL MILES UPSTREAM).  
1992: OBSERVED SINGLE MALE [T24N,R30W,2] AND SINGLE FEMALE  
[T24N,R30W,7]; MALE WAS MARKED.

General site description:

A CA. 10 MILE STREAM SEGMENT, FROM VERMILLION BAY TO VERMILLION FALLS.

Land owner/manager:

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST, CABINET RANGER DISTRICT  
PRIVATELY OWNED LAND (INDIVIDUAL OR CORPORATE)  
CORPORATE TIMBERLANDS

Comments: PLACER MINING IN AREA. EXTENT OF OCCUPIED BREEDING HABITAT UNKNOWN.

Information source:

Specimens:

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.011  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: SWAMP CREEK  
EO rank: D

EO rank comments: 1-2 PAIRS PRESENT. 3-4 OTHER STREAMS WITHIN 20 KM  
WITH WITH TOTAL OF 9-12 PAIRS; NO BOATING, LITTLE  
FISHING; DIFFICULT ACCESS.

County: SANDERS

USGS quadrangle: GOAT PEAK  
NOXON RAPIDS DAM

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
025N 031W 16 W2; 4,9,17,19,20

Precision: M  
Survey date: Elevation: 2700 -  
First observation: 1989 Slope/aspect:  
Last observation: 1993-08-02 Size (acres): 0

Location:

FROM SR 200 JUST NORTH OF CABINET RANGER STATION, TAKE COUNTY ROAD AND  
FS ROAD #1119 NORTH TO SWAMP CREEK TRAILHEAD; THEN WALK UPSTREAM CA.  
0.5 MILE.

Element occurrence data:

SPORADIC SIGHTINGS SINCE 1989; PROBABLY 1 OR 2 BROODS GENERALLY  
PRODUCED EACH YEAR. (SPECIFIC OBSERVATION DATA ON FILE AT MTNHP.)

General site description:

STREAM REACH WITH NESTING/REARING HABITAT; EXTENDS CA. 4 MILES  
UPSTREAM FROM LOCATION MAPPED.

Land owner/manager:

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST, CABINET RANGER DISTRICT

Comments:

NONE.

Information source: MILLER, V. E. 1989. FIELD SURVEY REPORT, HARLEQUIN  
DUCK (HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS): LOWER CLARK FORK  
RIVER DRAINAGE, WEST-CENTRAL MONTANA. UNPUBLISHED.  
47 PP.

Specimens:

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.017  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: SULLIVAN CREEK  
EO rank: D  
EO rank comments: NO RECORDS OF MORE THAN 1 PAIR PRESENT. SOME  
FISHING, NO BOATING, AND DIFFICULT ACCESS IN MOST  
AREAS.

County: FLATHEAD

USGS quadrangle: CONNOR CREEK  
QUINTONKON

Township:	Range:	Section:	TRS comments:
026N	016W	31	30
026N	017W	25	11,12,14,24

Precision: M  
Survey date: 1993-08-16 Elevation: 3560 - 4150  
First observation: 1990 Slope/aspect:  
Last observation: 1994-08-05 Size (acres):

Location:  
CA. 6 MILES UP FS ROAD #547 ALONG SULLIVAN CREEK, ON THE WEST SIDE OF  
HUNGRY HORSE RESERVOIR.

Element occurrence data:  
1990: FEMALE AND 4 YOUNG OBSERVED. 1992: 2 UNAGED BIRDS SEEN 8 AUG.

General site description:  
CA. 8 MILE STREAM SEGMENT.

Land owner/manager:  
FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST, SPOTTED BEAR RANGER DISTRICT

Comments:  
EXTENT OF OCCUPIED BREEDING HABITAT UNKNOWN. NONE SEEN DURING 2  
SURVEYS IN 1993.

Information source:

Specimens:

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.019  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: TRAIL CREEK  
EO rank: C/B  
EO rank comments: 4-6 PAIRS PRESENT; NO FISHING OR BOATING; ACCESS  
MODERATE TO DIFFICULT EXCEPT TO LANDOWNERS BELOW  
FLATHEAD NF. MAY BE PART OF A LARGER COMPLEX WITH  
KISHENEHN CREEK EO#28. DUCKS HAVE ALSO BEEN  
REPORTED ON RED MEADOW AND WHALE CREEKS WITH 20  
KM.

County: FLATHEAD

USGS quadrangle: TRAILCREEK  
MOUNT HEFTY

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
037N 022W 30 SE4NE4

Precision: M  
Survey date: Elevation: 3800 - 4280  
First observation: 1990 Slope/aspect:  
Last observation: 1994-08-01 Size (acres):

Location:

TAKE THE NORTH FORK FLATHEAD ROAD PAST POLEBRIDGE TO FS ROAD #114,  
THEN CA. 3 MILES WEST.

Element occurrence data:

PROBABLY 2 TO 4 BROODS PRODUCED EACH YEAR. (SPECIFIC OBSERVATION DATA  
ON FILE AT MTNHP.)

General site description:

A CA. 7 MILE SEGMENT OF MOUNTAIN STREAM, SECTIONS OF WHICH ARE  
INTERMITTENT DURING LATE SUMMER.

Land owner/manager:

FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST, GLACIER VIEW RANGER DISTRICT  
PRIVATELY OWNED LAND (INDIVIDUAL OR CORPORATE)  
STATE LAND - UNDESIGNATED

Comments: EXTENT OF OCCUPIED BREEDING HABITAT UNKNOWN.

Information source:

Specimens:

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.020  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: BIG CREEK (KOOCANUSA)  
EO rank: D  
EO rank comments: A SINGLE OBSERVATION AT AN ISOLATED SITE.

County: LINCOLN

USGS quadrangle: PARSNIP MOUNTAIN

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
034N 030W 04 SE4

Precision: M  
Survey date: 1993-05-30 Elevation: 3300 -  
First observation: 1990 Slope/aspect:  
Last observation: 1990-08-21 Size (acres):

Location:

FROM THE WEST SIDE OF LAKE KOOCANUSA, TAKE FS ROAD #336 UP BIG CREEK  
ROAD CA. 2 MILES UP THE SOUTH FORK.

Element occurrence data:  
ONE JUVENILE OBSERVED.

General site description:

Land owner/manager:  
KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST, REXFORD RANGER DISTRICT

Comments:  
SURVEYED IN 1993 FROM 1.5 MI ABOVE COPELAND CREEK DOWN TO SR 228; NO  
DUCKS OBSERVED.

Information source: FAIRMAN, L. M. AND V. E. MILLER. 1990. RESULTS OF  
1990 SURVEYS FOR HARLEQUIN DUCKS ON THE KOOTENAI  
AND LOLO NATIONAL FORESTS, MONTANA.

Specimens:

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.021  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: NORTH CALLAHAN CREEK  
EO rank: D  
EO rank comments: NEVER MORE THAN 1 PAIR SEEN; ISOLATED EO.

County: LINCOLN

USGS quadrangle: SMITH MOUNTAIN

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
031N 035W 23 E2; 24 E2

Precision: M  
Survey date: 1993-05-28 Elevation: 2850 -  
First observation: 1990-07-23 Slope/aspect:  
Last observation: 1990-08-04 Size (acres):

Location:  
FROM TROY, TAKE FS ROAD #427 UP CALLAHAN CREEK AND CA. 2 MILES UP  
ALONG THE NORTH FORK.

Element occurrence data:  
1990: FEMALE AND 3 JUVENILES OBSERVED 23 JULY; 2 JUVENILES OBSERVED 4  
AUGUST.

General site description:

Land owner/manager:  
KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST, THREE RIVERS RANGER DISTRICT

Comments:  
SURVEYED IN 1993 - CA. 4 MILES OF BOTH FORKS AND 4 MILES BELOW  
JUNCTION. NO DUCKS OBSERVED.

Information source: FAIRMAN, L. M. AND V. E. MILLER. 1990. RESULTS OF  
1990 SURVEYS FOR HARLEQUIN DUCKS ON THE KOOTENAI  
AND LOLO NATIONAL FORESTS, MONTANA.

Specimens:

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.022  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: NORTH FORK BLACKFOOT RIVER  
EO rank: D  
EO rank comments: SINGLE BROODS ARE ONLY RECORDS AT THIS ISOLATED  
EO. PARTIALLY IN SCAPEGOAT WILDERNESS AREA, VERY  
LITTLE BOATING, MODERATE FISHING.

County: POWELL  
LEWIS AND CLARK

USGS quadrangle: LAKE MOUNTAIN

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
016N 011W 23 NW4SW4

Precision: M  
Survey date: 1993-07-21 Elevation: 4700 -  
First observation: 1992-08-28 Slope/aspect: -/-  
Last observation: 1994-07-15 Size (acres):

Location:  
FROM SR 200 EAST OF OVANDO, FOLLOW SIGNS TO NORTH FORK BLACKFOOT RIVER  
TRAILHEAD AND GO UP TRAIL CA. 1 MILE.

Element occurrence data:  
1992: 3 DUCKS SIGHTED - JUVENILES, OR HEN WITH 2 JUVENILES. 1991: HEN  
WITH 4 JUVENILES SIGHTED (T17N,R10W,S31).

General site description:

Land owner/manager:  
LOLO NATIONAL FOREST, SEELEY LAKE RANGER DISTRICT

Comments:  
ACTUAL BREEDING LOCATION UNKNOWN, SINCE BROODS MIGHT HAVE TRAVELED  
SOME DISTANCE BY DATE OF THESE SIGHTINGS.

Information source:

Specimens:

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.023  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: LITTLE SALMON CREEK  
EO rank: D  
EO rank comments: 2 PAIRS SEEN. MODERATE FISHING, NO BOATING IN BOB  
MARSHALL WILDERNESS AREA. MAY BE PART OF A LARGER  
SOUTH FORK FLATHEAD RIVER EO.

County: FLATHEAD

USGS quadrangle: MARMOT MOUNTAIN  
PAGODA MOUNTAIN

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
022N 014W 27 NE4NW4

Precision: M  
Survey date: Elevation: 4200 - 4250  
First observation: 1992-07-23 Slope/aspect: -/-  
Last observation: 1994-07-24 Size (acres):

Location:  
IN THE BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS CA. 1.25 MILES UP LITTLE SALMON CREEK  
FROM THE SOUTH FORK FLATHEAD RIVER.

Element occurrence data:  
FEMALE WITH 5 YOUNG (LIGHT COLORED, DOWNY LOOKING) OBSERVED. ALSO  
FEMALE WITH 3 YOUNG SIGHTED CA. 1 MILE DOWNSTREAM, NEAR PACK BRIDGE.

General site description:  
CA. 2 MILE SEGMENT OF MOUNTAIN STREAM.

Land owner/manager:  
BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS  
FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST, SPOTTED BEAR RANGER DISTRICT

Comments:  
EXTENT OF OCCUPIED BREEDING HABITAT UNKNOWN.

Information source:

Specimens:



MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.024  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: WHITE RIVER  
EO rank: C  
EO rank comments: 3 PAIRS SEEN. MODERATE FISHING, NO BOATING IN BOB  
MARSHALL WILDERNESS AREA. MAY BE PART OF A LARGER  
SOUTH FORK FLATHEAD RIVER EO.

County: FLATHEAD  
POWELL

USGS quadrangle: HAYSTACK MOUNTAIN

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
021N 012W 6 SE4SW4

Precision: M  
Survey date: Elevation: 4700 - 4850  
First observation: 1992-07-19 Slope/aspect: -/-  
Last observation: 1994-07-23 Size (acres):

Location:  
IN THE BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS, NEAR THE CONFLUENCE OF WHITE RIVER AND  
ITS SOUTH FORK, CA. 15 AIR MILES ENE OF BENCHMARK.

Element occurrence data:  
3 BROODS SIGHTED; 2 (FEMALE +3, FEMALE +1) AT SOUTH END OF CANYON  
BELOW NEEDLE FALLS AND 1 (FEMALE +2) CA. 0.5 MILE DOWNSTREAM OF  
CONFLUENCE.

General site description:  
CA. 2 MILE SEGMENT OF MOUNTAIN STREAM.

Land owner/manager:  
BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS  
FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST, SPOTTED BEAR RANGER DISTRICT

Comments:  
EXTENT OF OCCUPIED BREEDING HABITAT UNKNOWN.

Information source:

Specimens:

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.029  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: SPOTTED BEAR RIVER

EO rank: D

EO rank comments: NO RECORDS OF MORE THAN 2 PAIRS PRESENT. SOME  
FISHING AND BOATING. RELATIVELY EASY ACCESS AFTER  
THE ROAD OPENS (USUALLY AFTER JULY 1). MAY BE PART  
OF A LARGER SOUTH FORK FLATHEAD RIVER EO.

County: FLATHEAD

USGS quadrangle: WHITCOMB PEAK

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
025N 014W 14 13

Precision: M

Survey date:

Elevation: 4050 - 4200

First observation: 1992-08-13

Slope/aspect: -/-

Last observation: 1994-08-06

Size (acres):

Location:

FROM HUNGRY HORSE, GO UP EAST SIDE OF RESERVOIR TO SPOTTED BEAR RIVER  
(CA. 50 MILES), THEN UP SPOTTED BEAR RIVER TO BEAVER CREEK CAMPGROUND.

Element occurrence data:

PROBABLY 1 OR 2 BROODS PRODUCED EACH YEAR. (SPECIFIC OBSERVATION DATA  
ON FILE AT MTNHP.)

General site description:

STREAM REACH OF CA. 2 MILES.

Land owner/manager:

FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST, SPOTTED BEAR RANGER DISTRICT

Comments:

EXTENT OF OCCUPIED BREEDING HABITAT UNKNOWN. NOTE REPORT OF SINGLE  
FEMALE AT DEAN FALLS, CA. 10 MILES UPSTREAM OF WHITCOMB CREEK, ON  
8/4/93.

Information source:

Specimens:

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS  
Common Name: HARLEQUIN DUCK

Global rank: G4 Forest Service status: SENSITIVE  
State rank: S2B,SZN Federal Status: C2

Element occurrence code: ABNJB15010.033  
Element occurrence type:

Survey site name: GRAVE CREEK  
EO rank:  
EO rank comments:

County: LINCOLN

USGS quadrangle: STAHL PEAK  
MOUNT MARSTON

Township: Range: Section: TRS comments:  
036N 025W 15 1, 11, 12, 14, 22  
037N 024W 32

Precision: M  
Survey date: Elevation: 3600 - 4500  
First observation: 1989 Slope/aspect:  
Last observation: 1994-07-31 Size (acres):

Location:  
FROM US HIGHWAY 93 SOUTH OF EUREKA, GO UP THE GRAVE CREEK ROAD CA. 10  
MILES.

Element occurrence data:  
FEMALE WITH 4 JUVENILES CAPTURED AND BANDED. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS OF  
ADULTS--ESPECIALLY IN SECTION UPSTREAM FROM BLUE SKY CREEK.

General site description:

Land owner/manager:  
KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST, FORTINE RANGER DISTRICT

Comments:  
TOTAL EXTENT OF OCCUPIED HABITAT UNKNOWN.

Information source: ZOOLOGIST, MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM, 1515  
EAST SIXTH AVENUE, P.O. BOX 210800, HELENA, MT  
59620-1800. 406/444-3009.

Specimens: